



**DISCUSSION ITEM**

**Agenda Item #6**

**AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY**

**Meeting Date:** December 15, 2020

**Subject:** Commission Recommendations Regarding Bocce Ball Donation and Grant Park Master Plan

**Prepared by:** Donna Legge, Recreation and Community Services Director

**Approved by:** Jon Maginot, Acting City Manager

**Attachment(s):**

1. Park and Facility Improvements Identified for Grant Park

**Initiated by:**

Senior Commission

Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC)

**Previous Council Consideration:**

None

**Fiscal Impact:**

The following project will cost approximately \$75,000 and is included in FY 2020-21 operational park budget for professional consultant services, funded by the General Fund. Breakdown of funds to be used:

- o 75,000 General Fund
  - Amount already included in approved budget: Yes
  - Amount above budget requested: 0

**Environmental Review:**

Not applicable

**Policy Question(s) for Council Consideration:**

- Does Council want to consider the recommendation from staff, Senior Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission to engage a landscape architect consultant to facilitate a comprehensive public outreach process, including the PARC Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee and develop a Grant Park Master Plan?
- Does Council want to consider the recommendation from staff, Senior Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission to defer the acceptance of a donation of \$20,000 from the Rotary Endowment Fund and \$20,000 from the Los Altos Legacies for the construction of two bocce ball courts, until a Master Plan is completed, and priorities are determined for Grant Park?

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**Reviewed By:**

Acting City Manager

JM

City Attorney

JH

Finance Director

SE

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**Subject:** Commission Recommendations Regarding Bocce Ball Donation and Grant Park Master Plan

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- Does Council want to request the Los Altos Legacies and Rotary Endowment Fund to be flexible in the allocation of monies offered [to the City], based on the priorities of the Grant Park Master Plan?
- Does Council want to respectfully decline the donation offer from the Rotary Endowment Fund and Los Altos Legacies?

**Summary:**

- The Senior Commission recommends that Council support the pursuit of a Grant Park Master Plan to include bocce ball
- The PARC established a Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee
- The PARC recommends that Council authorize [to produce] a Grant Park Master Plan
- The PARC recommends that Council request that the Legacies and Rotary are flexible in the allocation of monies offered based on the priorities of the Grant Park Master Plan

**Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends that City Council acknowledge the most recent offer of \$20,000 from the Los Altos Legacies and \$20,000 from the Rotary Endowment Fund to build two bocce ball courts in Grant Park, including the deferral of a decision to accept or not accept the donation after Grant Park priorities have been identified through a comprehensive public outreach process.

It is recommended that City Council authorize staff to proceed with engaging a landscape architect to work with staff and the PARC Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee to coordinate a comprehensive public process and an exterior site-specific master plan for Grant Park.

**Purpose**

Consider recommendations from the Senior Commission and the PARC to engage a landscape architect to prepare an exterior Grant Park Master Plan including a comprehensive public process.

**Background**

Prior to programs being vacated from the Hillview Community Center in March 2019, there was an average of 56 participants that utilized two bocce ball courts on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, on an informal, drop-in basis. After Hillview closed and prior to the COVID -19 shelter-in-place orders, an average of 20 bocce ball participants, each week, utilized available courts at Cuesta Park located in the city of Mountain View – 2.4 miles or a 5-minute drive from Grant Park.

The Los Altos Legacies representative King Lear spoke during the public comment portion of the Senior Commission meeting on October 7, 2019, proposing to fund the development of two



**Subject:** Commission Recommendations Regarding Bocce Ball Donation and Grant Park Master Plan

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permanent bocce ball courts at Grant Park with a \$20,000 contribution. In addition, King spoke during the public comment portions of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on October 16, 2019 and the City Council meeting on October 22, 2019.

During the public comment portion of the Senior Commission meeting on December 2, 2019, King announced that the Los Altos Rotary Club Endowment Fund (Rotary) matched the Legacies' donation of \$20,000, proposing a \$40,000 donation for new bocce ball courts at Grant Park.

Per the Donation Policy, any contribution made to the City of Los Altos valued to be greater than \$10,000, the acceptance (or not) of the contribution shall be placed upon the agenda of the City Council for its consideration. A letter to the donor(s) shall be sent following the Council's action, informing the person(s) of the Council's decision. Due to the nature of the offer, staff recommended that the Parks and Recreation Commission, as well as the Senior Commission, review the donation proposal and forward both recommendations to City Council.

At its regular meeting of December 11, 2019, the PARC recommended that the Senior Commission review the bocce ball proposal first and share their recommendation with the Parks and Recreation Commission at a future meeting.

On January 6, 2020, staff presented an analysis of the bocce ball proposal to the Senior Commission, including six optional locations for placement in Grant Park with an estimated cost of \$56,925. This includes public outreach, Commission and City Council meetings, design, construction, grading, drainage, and a contingency. The estimate was based on the cost of the two bocce ball courts being built at the new Los Altos Community Center. The estimate did not include costs associated with surveying, soil testing or shade structures.

The Senior Commission continued its discussion of bocce ball at its regular meetings on February 3 and March 2, 2020. Based on opposition and comments from the public, staff recommended that the Senior Commission consider a comprehensive public outreach process to determine the interest in bocce ball compared to other desirable amenities and priorities. Staff shared the park and facility improvements for Grant Park, that have already been identified by the City (Attachment 1). In consideration of the various improvements and the uncertainty that bocce ball was a preference, staff is recommended that the Senior Commission consider the pursuit of a site-specific master plan for Grant Park.



**Subject:** Commission Recommendations Regarding Bocce Ball Donation and Grant Park Master Plan

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### Definition of a Site Master Plan

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) produces research, education and policy initiatives including Park and Recreation Standards for operations and maintenance as well as accreditation and certification. According to the NRPA publication of “Management of Park and Recreation Agencies”

A site master plan refers to a drawing that is completed or contemplated, with all the physical modifications shown or proposed. A site master plan shows all the facilities, the vegetation (existing and proposed), circulation routes (roads, paths, trails), service and maintenance areas, parking, playgrounds, and all appropriate accommodations. A preliminary cost estimate will be prepared to see how the planned park documents work within an existing or proposed budget. Community input will help ensure that the plan is comprehensive and fair. This includes an ongoing strategy or process that encourages the residents to contribute suggestions and communicate ideas and concepts. The steps in a design process may vary by designer but generally includes research, inventory, synthesis, preliminary design, final design, implementation, and evaluation.

At its regular meeting of March 2, 2020, the Senior Commission recommended that the bocce ball courts be included in a greater [Grant Park] master plan process.

### **Discussion/Analysis**

A regular discussion by the PARC includes exploring park improvements and amenities that can be flexible, multi-use and serves the greater population in the least amount of space. Parkland is a valuable commodity given the limited acreage (45 acres) the City has available.

As part of the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Capital Improvement Program, \$475,000 was allocated for the Grant Park Community Center Improvement Project. In addition, a Citywide Facility Condition Assessment was completed in August 2016, including recommendations for the Grant Park Community Center including the classroom building as well as the multi-purpose room and kitchen.

The Hillview Community Center included a City Senior Program and was combined with the Grant Park Senior Program (volunteer-based) when Hillview was closed in March 2019. The Grant Park Community Center is intended to be a shared attraction for the community, to include all ages,



**Subject:** Commission Recommendations Regarding Bocce Ball Donation and Grant Park Master Plan

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interests, and ability levels. The original Grant Park Senior Program that was initiated five years ago, will remain at Grant Park once the new Community Center opens.

At its regular meeting of July 8, 2020, the PARC appointed Commissioners Dailey, Morris and Yeh to serve on a Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee to evaluate Grant Park and conduct a preliminary needs assessment, working with staff if/when a recommendation for a consultant is deemed appropriate.

At the regular PARC meeting of August 12, 2020, staff presented a revised offer from the Legacies committing to a \$30,000 donation for two bocce ball courts at Grant Park with a condition that the donation be accepted by City Council, prior to December 31, 2020. Should the City not accept the offer by that date, the conditional offer would expire. This was not the case with the \$20,000 donation offered by the Rotary Endowment Fund. After much deliberation, the PARC tabled the discussion to the next regular meeting.

At the September 9, 2020, meeting, staff shared the following update from King Lear:

The Los Altos Legacies board has decided to go back to our original letter offer of \$20K with no expiration date. Both charitable fund offers are now back to being the same for a total of \$40K [including \$20K from the Rotary Endowment Fund].

The bocce idea was excellent, timely, and generous a year ago and may be a good idea in the future. But now we have a continuing pandemic and other issues complicating life for the City. There is a reduction in city revenues, a large hit on our city recreation programs and fees, staff has to plan on moving into the new community center, and we are electing three council members. Bocce is a low priority compared with all this.

In a year or so when it is clear if and how senior programs will be staffed at Grant Park, then the City can check in with us, if you are interested in the bocce gift idea. It is possible that the gift amount could be increased above \$40K total, depending on the estimated project cost.

King further advised staff and the PARC to table the issue until sometime later, probably in 2021 when the recreation department finds a new normal or when a Grant Park Master Plan is completed.

Due to the late hour and reports that the Grant Park neighborhood experienced a power outage, the PARC recommended tabling the agenda item to the next meeting.



**Subject:** Commission Recommendations Regarding Bocce Ball Donation and Grant Park Master Plan

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On October 14, 2020, the PARC made the following recommendations to City Council:

- 1) Authorize [staff] to produce a Grant Park Master Plan.
- 2) City Council request that Legacies and Rotary are flexible in the allocation of monies offered based on the priorities of the Grant Park Master Plan.

### Options

- 1) Direct staff to draft a letter on behalf of the City Council to acknowledge the most recent offer of \$20,000 from the Los Altos Legacies and \$20,000 from the Rotary Endowment Fund to build two bocce ball courts in Grant Park, including the deferral of a decision to accept or not accept the donation after Grant Park priorities have been identified through a comprehensive public outreach process.

It is recommended that City Council authorize staff to proceed with engaging a landscape architect to work with staff and the PARC Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee to coordinate a comprehensive public process and an exterior site-specific master plan for Grant Park.

**Advantages:** Grant Park priorities are determined in a fair and inclusive public process. The City will obtain a professional and carefully planned park design for Grant Park including priorities, funding options, cost estimates, proposed phases and coordinated efforts with community input.

**Disadvantages:** The Grant Park Master Plan process will take time and careful planning in response to the pandemic.

- 2) Direct staff to draft a letter on behalf of the City Council to acknowledge the most recent donation offer and request that the Los Altos Legacies and Rotary Endowment Fund be flexible in the allocation of monies offered, based on the priorities of the Grant Park Master Plan?

**Advantages:** Confirm commitment from donors to consider funding a park or facility improvement based on public input and priorities. Receive an alternative funding source for a future Grant Park project. Continue to foster positive relationships with local non-profits that support the City and community programs and services. Know in advance the commitment from the Legacies and Rotary Endowment Fund.



**Subject:** Commission Recommendations Regarding Bocce Ball Donation and Grant Park Master Plan

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**Disadvantages:** The legacies and the rotary Endowment Fund may be offended by the request or may not be able to be flexible.

- 3) Direct staff to draft a letter on behalf of the City Council to respectfully decline the donation offer from the Legacies and Rotary Endowment Fund for two bocce ball courts in Grant Park?

**Advantages:** Recognize significant opposition from concerned neighbors and residents.

**Disadvantages:** Legacies and Rotary Endowment Fund may be offended.

- 4) Do not authorize staff to proceed with engaging a landscape architect to work with staff and the PARC Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee to coordinate the public process and a site-specific master plan for Grant Park.

**Advantages:** None

**Disadvantages:** Lack of a strategic plan based on public input.

### **Recommendation**

The staff recommends Option 1.

## Park and Facility Improvements Identified for Grant Park

### 2002 General Plan – Open Space, Conservation & Community Facilities Element

#### OCC 6: RECREATION PLAN

Develop and periodically update a Recreation Plan, which addresses existing and future facilities and services. In implementing and updating the plan, focus on retrofitting and improving the existing facilities and constructing new facilities in the most cost-effective manner. Improvements and new construction will implement requirements of the ADA.

- 6) Encourage use of community parks and facilities for cultural activities, special events and programs.
- 7) Adopt and maintain a capital improvement program for parkland acquisitions, improvements, existing park retrofits and recreational facilities, and a phasing schedule for commitment of resources including the design and construction of facilities.

#### OCC 8: RECREATION PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES

Provide a full range of recreational opportunities to serve the community.

- 6) Continuing work with the Hillview Senior Center and Garden House [Grant Park Seniors] to identify the available programs and facilities for seniors, and looking for ways to augment them where appropriate.
- 8) Developing new recreation programs to reflect the changing needs and interests of Los Altos residents.

### 2012 Parks Plan

Grant Park recommendations:

- Look for opportunities to provide shaded seating through planting of trees
- Complete the Grant Park Renovation CIP which includes replacing lighting, benches, and the pathway
- Complete the Grant Park Jogging Trail CIP

\* The Parks Plan does not address recreation facilities, programs or events.

### 2016 Facility Condition Assessment Report

- Classroom Building
- Multi-purpose Room and Kitchen
- Parking

### PARC Capital Improvement Program Recommendations

During the FY 2020-21 Budget & the Five-year (FY 2020-21 to FY 2023-24) Capital Improvement Program process, the PARC recommended the replacement of the Grant Park playground.

The playground equipment at Grant Park will be at the end of its 15-year expected life span. Pour in Place rubber should be considered as an addition to the playground to increase safety, increase inclusion for children with disabilities, and reduce maintenance costs.



The Grant Park playground renovation is scheduled for consideration in FY 2021-22. Park-in-lieu Funds in the amount of \$350,000 are allocated but require City Council approval.

#### City Council Capital Improvement Plan Priorities

At its regular meeting on September 24, 2019, staff facilitated the prioritization of the Capital Improvement Program with City Council. The following projects are listed as tabulated and approved by Council:

1. Police Department Renovation
2. Annual Pavement Improvement
3. **\*Grant Park Community Center**
4. Los Altos Youth Center
5. Parks Renovation
6. City Hall Renovation
7. Garden House Renovation
8. Public Pool Study
9. Halsey House

\*Staff has identified the following Grant Park Community Center and Park improvements that include, but are not limited to electrical upgrades, sustainable and efficient heating and cooling system, shade canopies, preschool room features, expansion of basketball courts, access to hot water (post COVID-19), storage, parking and consideration of a catering kitchen.

#### Parks and Recreation Commission Work Plan

At a special meeting on April 22, 2020, the PARC approved the FY 2020-21 Work Plan and shared it with City Council at their joint annual meeting on May 5, 2020. The following playground projects could be considered at Grant Park:

Goal: Aim for high quality parks and facilities:

Project: Inclusive Playground Features - Explore additional inclusive features (1 or 2) at each playground.

Project: Outdoor Adult Fitness - Determine placement for inclusive outdoor fitness components and equipment for adults.

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Letter in opposition of Grant Park Bocce Ball  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 8:16:18 AM

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**From:** Bahi Oreizy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 7:35 AM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Letter in opposition of Grant Park Bocce Ball

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

Bahi Oreizy, Architect.Principal

360 Design Studio



**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: City Council Meeting Nov 10; Grant Park  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 9:43:57 AM

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**From:** Becky sarabia [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 9:25 AM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Nov 10; Grant Park

To City Council:

I am a resident of South Los Altos and use Grant Park frequently. I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

This is similar to the same issues we had at Mckenzie Park! Why does the council continuously want to take away precious green space in favor of small groups?

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

I wholeheartedly agree with the above. There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

Rafael and Becky Sarabia

1427 Miramonte Ave

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Bocce Ball courts still a \*BAD\* Idea  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 2:39:47 PM

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Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Big Wave\_Dave [REDACTED]  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 2:29:25 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Bocce Ball courts still a \*BAD\* Idea

I live near Grant park and my family has been here since 1960. I wrote to the council a few weeks ago detailing why I do not want to waste precious land resources on the pet project of a greedy few.

Given how strong the opposition is to this project it makes me wonder if there is some quid-pro-quo with council members as it appears that outsiders from our neighborhood are conspiring against the neighbors and would like to impose their selfish desires upon us, the Grant Park neighbors.

A Bocce Ball court is still a bad idea for the following reasons I've mentioned in earlier correspondence:

- The park is incredibly well used by the neighborhood as is. Basketball courts, playground, the field next to the basketball court, the main 'soccer' field and tree'd forest area are fully utilized along with the walking path. I walk my dog in that tree'd area nearly every day.
- Stealing land from the proposed areas impacts existing users of the park negatively. Grant park is too tiny for such a development.
- Bocce Ball only serves a few individuals and will not be used. Witness the already under-used Bocce Ball courts at Cuesta and Blackberry Farm parks nearby. You can go play Bocce ball right now with no waiting!
- A new court is already planned at Hillview - It's sheer lunacy to waste precious resources on a \*redundant\*, pointless project. It's a waste of city revenue when we could be spending it on something useful. Donated funds will be insufficient to complete the project and our city gets to pick up the recurring cost when we should be using funds to maintain well-used facilities.
- Having the courts encourages non-neighbors to use tiny neighborhood Grant Park as a destination -- It can't handle it as there is already insufficient parking and degrades the neighborhood with additional traffic.

Sincerely,  
David Munoz

Alford Avenue, Los Altos

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Grant Park Bocce Ball Courts  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 1:28:20 PM

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**From:** Brenda Blanchar [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 12:56 PM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Grant Park Bocce Ball Courts

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

Thank you for listening to the neighbors of Grant Park!

Brenda Blanchar



**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Bocce Ball Court at Grant Park  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 6:28:33 PM

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Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** c fen [REDACTED]  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 5:43:20 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Bocce Ball Court at Grant Park  
**Reply-To:** c fen [REDACTED]

Dear City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

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- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- remodeling of the kitchen so seniors can have their lunches at the Grant Park Senior Center.

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come

together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

...

Best regards,  
Carol Fenwick

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Oppose to GRANT PARK BOCCE BALL COURT  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 6:28:22 PM

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Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** carmen chan [REDACTED]  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 5:31:07 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject: Oppose to GRANT PARK BOCCE BALL COURT**

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

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We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come

together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

Carmen Chan

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Your Support is Greatly Appreciated  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 2:38:41 PM

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Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 1:33:47 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <[council@losaltosca.gov](mailto:council@losaltosca.gov)>  
**Subject:** **Your Support is Greatly Appreciated**

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

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- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,  
June & Aram Darmanian  
1595 Ben Roe Drive

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Bocce ball courts  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 2:40:42 PM

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Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Lindy Davis [REDACTED] >  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 1:38:44 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Bocce ball courts

Los Altos City Council,

I have been a resident on Middleton Ave since 1995. I have raised three children here, and now am a foster mother to little ones. Grant Park was, and remains, a place to run free and be joyous in a sweet and easily accessible neighborhood spot.

I feel so strongly that Bocce Ball Courts NOT be put in. I feel that this is not a collective neighborhood endeavor, rather it entitles a few with the very narrow interest of bocce ball to take away a spot that so many can now use in wonderfully varied ways.

It is also my understanding that the donation does not cover the full costs of construction, let alone ongoing maintenance. This strikes me as truly unfair to burden us collectively for something that will be desired by very few.

In talking with neighbors, it is my personal observation that a huge majority are dismayed at the thought of Grant Park being altered so greatly by bocce ball courts.

I respectfully ask that you all hear our voices and vote to maintain Grant Park as the neighborhood oasis that it is.

Most sincerely,  
Elizabeth Davis  
1860 Middleton Avenue  
Los Altos 94024

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: No on Bocce Ball Courts @ Grant Park. C. Douglas / Los Altos  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 10:52:52 AM

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**From:** Chet Douglas [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 10:44 AM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** No on Bocce Ball Courts @ Grant Park. C. Douglas / Los Altos

To Los Altos City Council:

I am a 25 year resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meeting space all year long, rain or shine
- Build / Repair or add new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Fix existing infrastructure that is old and needing replacing, like fence near front walk-way, sprinklers that don't work, night lighting - none of which are bocce ball courts

>> Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, picnics spaced during pandemic, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families, local small businesses and students use the space for meetings or studying. The overflow grass area by hoops courts is ONLY place for kids / dogs (on leash) to play when main field is being used by

leased organizations.....like soccer clubs. The city may benefit from club team leases, but citizens/kids need a place to recreate if main field being used.

Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Chet Douglas

**Chet M. Douglas**  
**Los Altos, Ca.**





**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Bocce Ball Courts at Grant Park  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 2:38:57 PM

---

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Stephen Flynn [REDACTED]  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 1:36:15 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <[council@losaltosca.gov](mailto:council@losaltosca.gov)>  
**Subject:** **Bocce Ball Courts at Grant Park**

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Highlands neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the Grant Park neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Maintain the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meeting space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

The bocce ball courts will take up lots of valuable useable green space in the park and will actually benefit very few Los Altos residents. There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is

focused on maintaining the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you,  
Steve Flynn  
924 St. Joseph Ave.  
Los Altos, CA 94024



**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Grant Park Master Plan  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 2:39:13 PM

---

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Freddie Park [REDACTED]  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 2:05:47 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Grant Park Master Plan

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to urge you to vote to proceed with a Master Plan for Grant Park and to defer the donations to a date uncertain after the completion of the Master Plan. Should bocce ball courts be of interest to the majority of residents who frequent Grant Park, then the Council could ask the Legacies and the Rotary Club if they are still interested in funding the courts. It's important that the majority of residents that frequent Grant Park have their voices heard and that the Council abide by their wishes.

Respectfully,

Freddie Park Wheeler  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Grant Park Bocce ball court - dissenting vote  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 6:13:59 AM

---

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "V. Chandrasekaran" [REDACTED]  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 9:07:50 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Grant Park Bocce ball court - dissenting vote  
**Reply-To:** "V. Chandrasekaran" [REDACTED]

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant

Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

[Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: No to Bocce Ball court at Grant Park  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 6:13:34 AM

---

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Geetha CHANDRASEKARAN [REDACTED]  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 10:45:53 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** No to Bocce Ball court at Grant Park

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in

camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration!

Geetha(Grant Park neighborhood resident )

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: ABSOLUTE NO to ruining GRANT PARK with a Bocce Ball Court!!!  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 3:21:48 PM

---

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Reena Kapoor [REDACTED]  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 2:42:55 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** **ABSOLUTE NO to ruining GRANT PARK with a Bocce Ball Court!!!**

Hello Los Altos City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my STRONG OPPOSITION to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. HOW IS THIS EVEN A PRIORITY?

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for OFF LEASH DOG HOURS which would require MINIMAL investment (in a few signs perhaps) AND a few other priorities such as:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, **overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts** in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).



We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration!

Thanks!

Reena

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**[My book of Poetry is here! Arrivals & Departures on Amazon!](#)**  
**[Latest Reviews: "What moves you?" in India Currents and "Women crossing borders" in NRI Pulse!](#)**



Reena Kapoor

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**From:** [Donna Legge](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External Sender]Bocce court funding offer for Grant Park  
**Date:** Saturday, November 7, 2020 6:00:46 PM

---

FYI

Donna Legge  
City of Los Altos  
Recreation & Community Services Director  
Office: 650.947.2889

----- Original message -----

From: King Lear [REDACTED]  
Date: 11/7/20 5:16 PM (GMT-08:00)  
To: City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
Cc: Paul Gonella [REDACTED], Ellen Akerlund-Gonella [REDACTED], Sue Pierce <[REDACTED]>, Gabrielle Tiemann [REDACTED], Tanya DeMare [REDACTED], Donna Verna [REDACTED], Donna Legge <dlegge@losaltosca.gov>  
Subject: [External Sender]Bocce court funding offer for Grant Park

Dear Mayor and members of the City Council:

The offers from the Los Altos Legacies and Los Altos Rotary Endowment Fund do not have an expiration date. There is no need to decide at this time whether to accept the offers.

The idea behind the offers was to provide outdoor recreation for seniors in Grant Park similar to and concurrent with the new bocce courts at Hillview. Not only does this treat south Los Altos seniors equitably, but it also opens the possibility of forming a N/S Los Altos bocce league for even more fun and socialization for seniors throughout the city. There are no outdoor recreation facilities in Grant Park appropriate for seniors in their 70's and 80's.

Bocce is recognized nationwide as a very successful outdoor recreation for seniors. It is physical, outdoors, social for men and women, and fun. Most of our players are in their 80's, but the game is fun for all ages. Bocce is very successful here in Los Altos if associated with a senior center where there is a staffed senior lounge. The lounge keeps the equipment, enforces reservations, and provides an after game club room. Seniors playing bocce would become customers for other senior programming at Grant Park and participants drawn to senior programs would be tempted to try out bocce. The benches beside the courts help people get started as observers. This is a form of social engineering. 1 + 1 can equal 3.

If there is no staffed senior lounge during weekdays, then bocce courts may be a waste of money. So this is an important consideration at Grant Park.

We hear commissioners saying that maybe seniors would prefer outdoor exercise structures in Grant Park rather than bocce courts. This would be similar to telling bridge players that the city has decided they should start doing push-ups instead of playing bridge. Exercise is good, but it is not fun and it is not social. A park design expert knows this. You can do both, but exercise is not a substitute for a fun game.

So, here are our recommendations:

1. Decide if the city is going to staff a senior lounge at Grant Park on weekdays with employees and/or volunteers.
2. If and when the answer is yes, then tell this to the park designer you hire and state that the City has an offer of \$40K or more to help pay for bocce courts if an acceptable location can be found and if bocce is accepted as a good idea for the park.
3. If the city should decide that bocce would be a good idea, then cost it out and let us know the cost. Our charitable funds might individually consider increasing our offers, if appropriate, at that time.

I will not be participating in your meeting, but if anyone has questions, please email me.

Best Regards, King Lear

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: No on Bocce Courts  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 2:40:14 PM

---

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Marji Karlgaard [REDACTED]  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 1:39:40 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** No on Bocce Courts

Please read before November 10 City Council Meeting.  
On October 14, the Parks & Rec Commission recommended asking the bocce ball donors to consider allowing their donation to be used for other improvements at Grant Park besides bocce ball – I support their recommendation in the following letter.

November 9, 2020

To Los Altos City Council:

I am a resident adjoining the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos who use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking that the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts.

There is resounding and overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space.

Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. The current setting is ideal for families of all ages, with the playground equipment for younger children and wide open space for other activities for

older kids or adults.

Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation. However, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

Marji and Rich Karlgaard

1250 Montclair Way

Los Altos, CA 94024

...

**Marji Karlgaard**



**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Grant Park  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 2:41:14 PM

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Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** [REDACTED] >  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 2:40:40 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Grant Park  
**Reply-To:** [REDACTED]

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in

camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

Marti Gibeau...

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: GRANT PARK BOCCE BALL COURT PROPOSAL  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 11:09:34 AM

---

**From:** Peter Mehring <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 11:04 AM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: GRANT PARK BOCCE BALL COURT PROPOSAL

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day. While I appreciate funds have been donated for the bocce ball courts, they are not a desired addition to Grant park.

Grant Park is a great neighborhood “watering hole” as it offers wide open green space for families to picnic, play and visit with their neighbors. The green space is often used for ad hoc games with neighborhood children, spanning from tag football, catch, frisbee, cricket, tag and other games. If anything, the fields would benefit from improved drainage, as the area near the basketball court can get rather muddy during the cooler months.

A dedicated, fixed function facility such as a bocce ball court is not needed, as it directly detracts from the open green space that can be flexible in use for a large variety of activities. Improvements should be targeted at multi-use projects that would be flexible in their use, and preserve the beautiful green spaces our neighborhood enjoys at Grant Park.

Thank you,  
Peter Mehring  
1936 Colleen Drive



**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Grant Park Bocce Ball Court Proposal  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 12:16:29 PM

---

**From:** Cori Mehring <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 12:13 PM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Grant Park Bocce Ball Court Proposal

To Council Members:

I am a 25-year-resident of the Grant Park neighborhood, and would like to express my opposition to the donor proposal to build 2 bocce ball courts at Grant Park, in the green field space adjacent to the blacktop area.

I support the development of the previously proposed "Master Plan for Grant Park", and ask that the Subcommittee studying this plan seek input from the residents of our neighborhood who use and cherish this rare open space, daily!

While a monetary donation is welcome, the "strings attached" to this one appear to be designed to skip the normal protocol, sway the Council and push through a project whose impact has not been fully thought through, much less accepted by the surrounding neighbors. There is a LOT of history with interest in modifying/improving Grant Park, and this request should be folded in with the past requests - NOT given a free pass to the top of the agenda! Is it now a "Pay to Play" system in Los Altos?

Please consider the needs & desires of the residents in the Grant Park neighborhood, who have asked for Grant Park to be improved in ways the majority of its users would benefit from, such as, but not limited to:

- Adopt Off-Leash Hours for dogs, per the OLH Pilot recommended by PARC, in addition to other city parks
- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meeting space thru all

## seasons

- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items - NONE of which are bocce ball courts

I thank the Council for it's consideration.

Sincerely,  
Cori Mehring

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: ABSOLUTE NO to ruining GRANT PARK with a Bocce Ball Court!!!  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 6:57:26 PM

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Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Anusuya Rao [REDACTED] m>  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 6:45:37 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject: Re: ABSOLUTE NO to ruining GRANT PARK with a Bocce Ball Court!!!**

I support this email below. We need a dog park to a Bocce Ball court, please!

Thanks  
Anu - Los Altos Resident.

On Sun, Nov 8, 2020 at 2:42 PM Reena Kapoor [REDACTED] > wrote:

Hello Los Altos City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my STRONG OPPOSITION to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. HOW IS THIS EVEN A PRIORITY?

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for OFF LEASH DOG HOURS which would require MINIMAL investment (in a few signs perhaps) AND a few other priorities such as:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, **overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball**

**courts** in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration!

Thanks!

Reena

---

**[My book of Poetry is here! Arrivals & Departures on Amazon!](#)**  
**[Latest Reviews: "What moves you?" in India Currents and "Women crossing borders" in NRI Pulse!](#)**



Reena Kapoor

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Grant Park \$75K expense  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 3:21:14 PM

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Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** David Roode <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 2:56:41 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Grant Park \$75K expense

The council is considering whether to spend \$75K for an architect to draw up new plans for Grant Park. This is under the item about "Bocce Ball" on the council agenda and more information was provided Friday in the usual places for agenda publication.

To me, relative to Los Altos parks, this is arranging deck chairs on a docked ship that is not going to sale for a while, if not a sinking one. City revenues are headed down and we don't know how far yet. Bocce Ball isn't the issue. The Parks Commission has asked to have \$75K spent on a consultant. There's also talk of spending \$400K to fix up the kitchen at the old Grant Park buildings. I think both expenditures are inconsistent with the city's position. If Bocce Ball is provided even with a donation of \$40K it will cost the city an extra \$15K. Programs at Grant Park are suspended due to Covid-19.

To me, the message to the council ought to be that this is a nice idea but the time is not right.

It's even possible that Grant Park Community Center might need to be shut down. As is the case for Bocce Ball, we already have a community center opening up soon at Hillview. We don't need to make any reaction now about Grant Park. Let's wait and see what happens.

Why should Grant Park have a master plan when there is no master plan for McKenzie Park, Rosita Park, Marymeade Park, Heritage Oaks Park, etc.? Most of the localized parks in the city are in South Los Altos. Why favor Grant Park over the others?

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Grant Park Bocce Court Proposal  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 3:21:36 PM

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Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Steve Smith [REDACTED] >  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 2:47:42 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** **Grant Park Bocce Court Proposal**

To City Council:

PART 1 of 2--NO BOCCE COURT PLEASE

=====

I am a resident of South Los Altos. For those of you who are not intimately familiar with our town, that is the poor part of Los Altos. Just sayin'. More germane is that I actually live across the street (Holt Ave.) from Grant Park, which gives me a tad more perspective on this situation.

I strongly oppose the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park and furthermore ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park ***that incorporates the input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.***

The reasons that I am opposed to bocce ball courts are twofold:

1. Grant Park offers a place where the local residents can come and socialize and increase their sense of community. This ideal was unsurpassed back in the days when dogs ran leash free (and people ran mask free). For the past score of years soccer, summer concerts, the play structures, and basketball courts have been well used by my neighbors. A bocce court impinges on that utilization.
2. Additionally, on the economic front, it is fairly cheap to build anything, but can be expensive to maintain it. In many cases, over the life of a project/capital outlay, the present value of the expected maintenance cost stream far outweighs the initial cost. So please don't be fooled by free money now that will require our city to ANNUALLY spend money later.

PART 2 OF 2--HISTORICAL NOTE

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I also want to make you aware of the fact that the tree zone that runs along the fence perpendicular to Holt Ave was planted by the then parents of Grant School to represent each of California's native trees. So one area that looks like a swath of green space actually has some historical/educational perspective that should be factored in to any decision.

Thank you for your consideration of these points. I encourage you to make decisions of commission rather than decisions of omission.

Stephen J. Smith

1914 Annette Ln

Los Altos, CA 94024

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Grant Park Proposal  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 6:27:35 PM

---

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Geoff Sonn [REDACTED]  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 3:36:46 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <[council@losaltosca.gov](mailto:council@losaltosca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Grant Park Proposal

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).



We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

Geoff Sonn

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to the construction of bocce ball at Grant Park  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 11:58:28 AM

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**From:** Jim Strawbridge [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 11:27 AM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Cc:** Susan Strawbridge [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Opposition to the construction of bocce ball at Grant Park

Dear Members of the City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood, and on behalf of myself and my wife, I am expressing my **strong opposition** to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and that the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

**There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.** Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Finally, I suspect there would be far more support for a dog park at Grant Park than there is for bocce ball courts. No doubt I could find many people willing to donate to that, though I am not asking for that. I simply mention that because I would hope that the wishes of a majority of the residents would dictate what is done at Grant Park, not someone's willingness to donate funds to a pet project that caters to a few interested people. **I have lived in this neighborhood for almost 30**

**years, and I have never heard anyone ever express a desire for bocce balls courts.**

Thank you for your consideration,

Jim and Susan Strawbridge

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Input Regarding Grant Park  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 1:27:16 PM

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**From:** Alison Takata [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 12:48 PM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Input Regarding Grant Park

Dear Los Altos City Council,

I've lived in the Grant Park neighborhood for more than 25 years, and I don't remember sending input to the council -- other than voting in elections. Yet, you're receiving this email from me now because Grant Park is close to my home. Features you decide for the park will affect me and my family directly -- it matters to me.

I walk through Grant Park 2-3 times a day and during the last few years, I've noticed an increase in the number of families with young children on the play structures and on the large and small grass areas playing catch, kicking soccer balls, throwing a frisbee or just running around. You see people with blankets on the greens of the park -- not just families, but also -- believe it or not, teenagers and young adults.

I've heard, there's a donation to install 2 bocce ball courts. I do not understand why this donation does not need to be considered with other requests made for Grant Park by our community. Are there special interests that enable this item to move to the top of the agenda? There isn't much open space in the park, and dedicating a portion of it to bocce courts would limit the available space for multiple casual uses.

I request that City Council consider the wants and needs to the Grant Park community, and improve or modify the park based upon their input, especially when the donation covers only a portion of the cost.

Sincerely,  
Alison Takata

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: In Opposition to Grant Park Bocce Ball Court  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 10:54:05 AM

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**From:** Craig Thompson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 10:19 AM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** In Opposition to Grant Park Bocce Ball Court

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

Craig Thompson  
1925 Kay Drive, Los Altos

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Grant Park Bocce Ball  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 10:53:49 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Stephanie Vargo [redacted] <[redacted]>  
Sent: Monday, November 9, 2020 10:26 AM  
To: City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
Subject: Grant Park Bocce Ball

Dear Los Altos Council Members,

I am writing today regarding your consideration of spending for a landscape plan for Grant Park that would include a bocce ball court.

I am a long time, tax paying resident of Los Altos and a registered and active voter.

I appreciate the consideration to make investments in Los Altos parks as these do create more vibrant communities.

I am concerned, however, that now is not the time to be spending this money. I believe the economic situation is far from settled and it is wise to be conservative in spending until things improve.

This might be a great idea for future consideration and I respectfully request that this be put on hold for now.

Best Regards,  
-Stephanie

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Concern re Bocce Ball court in Grant Park  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 6:27:41 PM

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Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Vikram Visweswaraiah [REDACTED]  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 3:44:27 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <[council@losaltosca.gov](mailto:council@losaltosca.gov)>  
**Subject:** **Concern re Bocce Ball court in Grant Park**

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

-Vik and Radha

1670 Ben Roe Dr

Los Altos CA 94024



**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Grant Park Bocce ball court  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 6:28:12 PM

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Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Vimal [REDACTED]  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 4:04:38 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** **Grant Park Bocce ball court**

To the members of the city council,

I am a resident of Grant Park living on Newcastle Dr. This is my email expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I am very much in favour of keeping **as much open green space** at Grant Park. If the donation money needs to be used, based on my discussions with residents and neighbours, I think they can be used for a variety of purposes:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

My discussions with neighbours all indicate a resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. We want to keep the open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. We've seen families and students use the space for picnics or studying. While we appreciate this donation, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together.

Thank you,

--

Vimal

[REDACTED]  
1939 Newcastle Dr

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Grant Park - bocce ball court opposition  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 8:20:14 AM

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**From:** Waas, Previn [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 8:09 AM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Grant Park - bocce ball court opposition

Hello Los Altos City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood (specifically 1951 Annette Lane, Los Altos) and am expressing my **OPPOSITION** to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

There is resounding, **overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts** in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. I personally use the current space with my 2 young kids to play frisbee and to throw a football.

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration!

Previn Waas

1951 Annette Lane, Los Altos, CA

This message (including any attachments) contains confidential information intended for a specific individual and purpose, and is protected by law. If you are not the intended recipient, you should delete this message and any disclosure, copying, or distribution of this message, or the taking of any action based on it, by you is strictly prohibited.

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v.E.1

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Bocce Ball Court  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 10:53:08 AM

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**From:** Joya Whitford [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 10:34 AM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Bocce Ball Court

I am against Bocce Ball Court....just because someone donates money does not allow you to proceed without regard to residents views. Very disappointed by the City Council's approach. See below....

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and

learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

Joya Whitford  
1613 Parkhills Avenue  
Los Altos

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Bocce ball field in Grant Park  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 11:59:35 AM

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**From:** Beatrice Zelenko [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 11:43 AM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Bocce ball field in Grant Park

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

Regards,

Beatrice Zelenko

[REDACTED]

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Objection to Bocce Ball courts in Grant park  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 6:57:11 PM

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Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Dong Zheng [REDACTED] >  
**Date:** November 8, 2020 at 6:35:25 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <[council@losaltosca.gov](mailto:council@losaltosca.gov)>  
**Cc:** Vivian Yang [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** **Objection to Bocce Ball courts in Grant park**

Dear Los Altos City Council members;

We (Vivian Yang and Dong Zheng, with our two children) live at 1306 Morton Ave, 1/2 mile from Grant park. I walk my dog to Grant park almost everyday, and we have two kids in Montclair. The kids and I used to go to the Grant park play structure almost everyday during summer time before Covid shut down the structure. With the recent re-opening of the Grant park playing structure, we started coming back to Grant park during day light.

I would like to express our strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

- 1) Don't know how many people playing Bocce ball. My family don't play it, and we are not aware of any acquaintances playing Bocce Ball either. There are two Bocce ball courts in Cuesta park, but they appear to be rarely used. Besides, Cuesta Park (2.4 miles from Grant Park) is 25 acres, Grant Park is 4 acres – it is too small for bocce ball courts.
- 2) The L-shape piece of grass in Grant park is next to the basket ball courts. In summer time, there are families with small kids playing in that area, because it is outside the soccer field, so small kids don't collide with bigger kids. It is a nice secluded area for families who don't want to mix with bigger kids. There is no reason to convert a nice piece of family grass area to an area only beneficial to few people.
- 3) Grant park is a community park to the local residents, we don't want to convert it to a place holding Bocce ball tournaments and attract crowds outside Los Altos area, we prefer it as a park for the kids living near by, so that they can walk/bike to the park and play, without worrying about crowds driving to the park.

We appreciate the donation to the park, however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration!

Best regards

Dong Zheng & Vivian Yang

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: no on bocce ball proposal  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 4:09:05 PM

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**From:** Yumi Ando [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 4:03 PM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** no on bocce ball proposal

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day. We feel that this process has not been democratic in that our input has not been solicited. Much of the decisions seem to have happened behind closed-door sessions. I tried to dial in to the last community meeting, but was unsuccessful.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

Cuesta Park (2.4 miles from Grant Park) is 25 acres and has bocce ball courts. Grant Park is 4 acres – it is too small for bocce ball courts. We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Yumi Ando, MD



**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: No Bocce courts at Grant park  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 10, 2020 7:42:09 AM

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**From:** Terri Catalano <[REDACTED]m>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 10, 2020 4:29 AM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** No Bocce courts at Grant park

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

Teresa Catalano  
1391 Holt Avenue  
Los Altos

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: No Bocce Balls in Grant Park  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 10, 2020 7:42:59 AM

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**From:** Vani Kane [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 6:05 PM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** No Bocce Balls in Grant Park

To the City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

Cuesta Park (2.4 miles from Grant Park) is 25 acres and has bocce ball courts. Grant Park is 4 acres – it is too small for bocce ball courts.

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Vani Kane

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to Potential Bocce Ball Court  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 4:14:25 PM

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**From:** Jennifer Kremen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 4:13 PM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Opposition to Potential Bocce Ball Court

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground (THIS IS SORELY NEEDED. WHERE ARE PARENTS SUPPOSED TO SIT TO SUPERVISE THEIR KIDS WHILE THEY PLAY, THE GROUND??)
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Jennifer Kremen

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Grant Park Bocce Ball  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 4:09:20 PM

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**From:** Harry and Rhoda Lee [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 4:04 PM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Grant Park Bocce Ball

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely Yours,  
Rhoda Chung  
Harry Lee  
1501 Ben Roe Drive,  
Los Altos, CA 94024  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [Donna Legge](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** FW: BOCCE BALL POLL REPORT  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 3:37:42 PM  
**Attachments:** [GP Bocce Ball Poll Report 10-14-20.pptx](#)

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**From:** Frank Martin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 2:57 PM  
**To:** Donna Legge <dlegge@losaltosca.gov>; Frank Martin <apfrank42@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** BOCCE BALL POLL REPORT

Donna,

Please pass this report to city council. I will be a public speaker and talke about these results. If you need pdf version let me know.

Thanks,

Frank Martin

# Grant Park Bocce Ball Conclusions

**UNNECESSARY** - Bocce Ball is a niche activity that serves very few Los Altos Seniors - already served by Hillview courts. 60.23% of poll residents believe that two Hillview courts are enough for Los Altos. Most towns do not have any courts and the few that do have one such as Blackberry Farm & Cuesta Park. Moreover, only Hillview has 28 active players that play an average of 56 times each week. And, the 2015 senior commission found that 10 nearby downs do not have any Bocce Ball courts at their senior centers or community centers.

**TOO BIG** - Bocce Ball requires dedicated space that does not fit any of our tiny parks other than Hillview where shared open space is in high demand. A primary reason that Parks and Recreation commissioners voted 7-0 against having dedicated dog parks is because they would need to take away shared open space at existing Los Altos parks.

**UNWANTED** – 78.1% of Grant Park Residents oppose Bocce Ball. What makes any one believe that a Grant Park Master Plan will find a different result?

**Recommendation** - A Grant Park Master Plan makes the most sense to determine whether residents have a different vision on the dedication plaque that calls for preserving Grant Park open space. **But, many residents do not want to have to continue to fight back against Bocce Ball – it should not be part of the equation!**

# Grant Park Bocce Ball Poll Results

This Monkey-Survey poll has 430 individual responses. Here are the key findings:

**336 (78.59%) of residents oppose dedicated space for Grant Park Bocce Ball location(s) at open shared play grass space near the basketball courts that is used by many instead of the few players.**

**329 (76.52%) want 100% of grass areas, land, and trees preserved.** Meaning other Grant Park locations are opposed by residents as well. Most say Grant Park is too tiny for Bocce Ball.

**363 (84.41%) want a GP Master Plan before considering Bocce Ball as a competing idea. But, most want Bocce Ball stopped now because this result is unlikely to change.**

**259 (60.23%) do not want Bocce Ball anyplace other than Hillview.** One set of courts is enough for Los Altos. And most other towns have no courts or just one set.

**347 (84.22%) do not play Bocce Ball.**

**330 (76.73%) use Grant Park at least once a week or more often.**

**367 (86.95%) believe that maintaining or improving the GP CC buildings and existing playground, basketball court, grass fields, and opens spaces should be the highest priority. Why can't donations be used for these needs instead?**

# Grant Park Bocce Ball Discussion

## **Introduction:**

PARC Staff reports that 28 active players used Hillview Bocce Ball courts prior to new Hillview Community Center construction. Past usage over the last few decades is about 56 times each week – a very low usage rate for our large senior population.

A 2015 Senior Commission Survey shows there are not any Bocce Ball courts at dedicated Senior Centers at Cupertino, Menlo Park, Mountain View, Santa Clara, or Sunnyvale or for community centers at Almaden, Campbell, Foster City, Los Gatos or Saratoga. The inference suggests that Bocce Ball is not popular for most seniors. It is more like a niche activity like Rugby that has avid players but few in number.

There are few if any nearby cities that have any Bocce Ball courts located at parks at all – let alone more than one. And, most of these parks are more than 3 times as large as tiny Grant Park.

Bocce Ball uses dedicated park space that does not fit other tiny Los Altos park locations other than Hillview because the available shared space is in high demand. Bocce Ball is played by the few and does not benefit the many that used shared open space.

Moreover, fenced in dog parks have been unanimously rejected by the parks and recreation in part for this reason.

## **Discussion:**

This poll was created to gather missing community resident input concerning whether or not Bocce Ball is needed, wanted, or necessary at Grant Park or anyplace other than Hillview. The poll included land use questions raised by Park and Recreation Commissioners after feedback received by resident emails and public speakers. The poll link was intentionally sent to a much wider area than the typical alert sent by the city to residents within 1,000 ft of a park like Grant Park. There are 430 poll responses.

This poll is not intended to address other competing programming ideas for Grant Park that may be evaluated during the process to create an updated Grant Park Master Plan other than to mention whether this might be a good idea or not.

The Monkey-Survey personal subscription limited the poll questions to 9 - not including personal information to record the names and addresses for residents 18 years. No attempt was made to verify the names and addresses match. But 4 records were eliminated because of duplicates or missing personal data.



# Grant Park Bocce Ball Discussion

## **Discussion continued:**

Each of these questions were tested in advance by a few residents to make sure the poll was easy to understand and not biased. One expert was consulted in advance to insure the poll met these criteria.

Afterward, two poll experts were consulted who concluded the poll addressed the stated needs and is unbiased. Moreover, Godbe Research says that a poll needs to have 400-500 responses in order to be valid for a city of the size of Los Altos. Given, that the count is 430 – this poll should be as valid as if Godbe Research has conducted it for the City and need not be repeated.

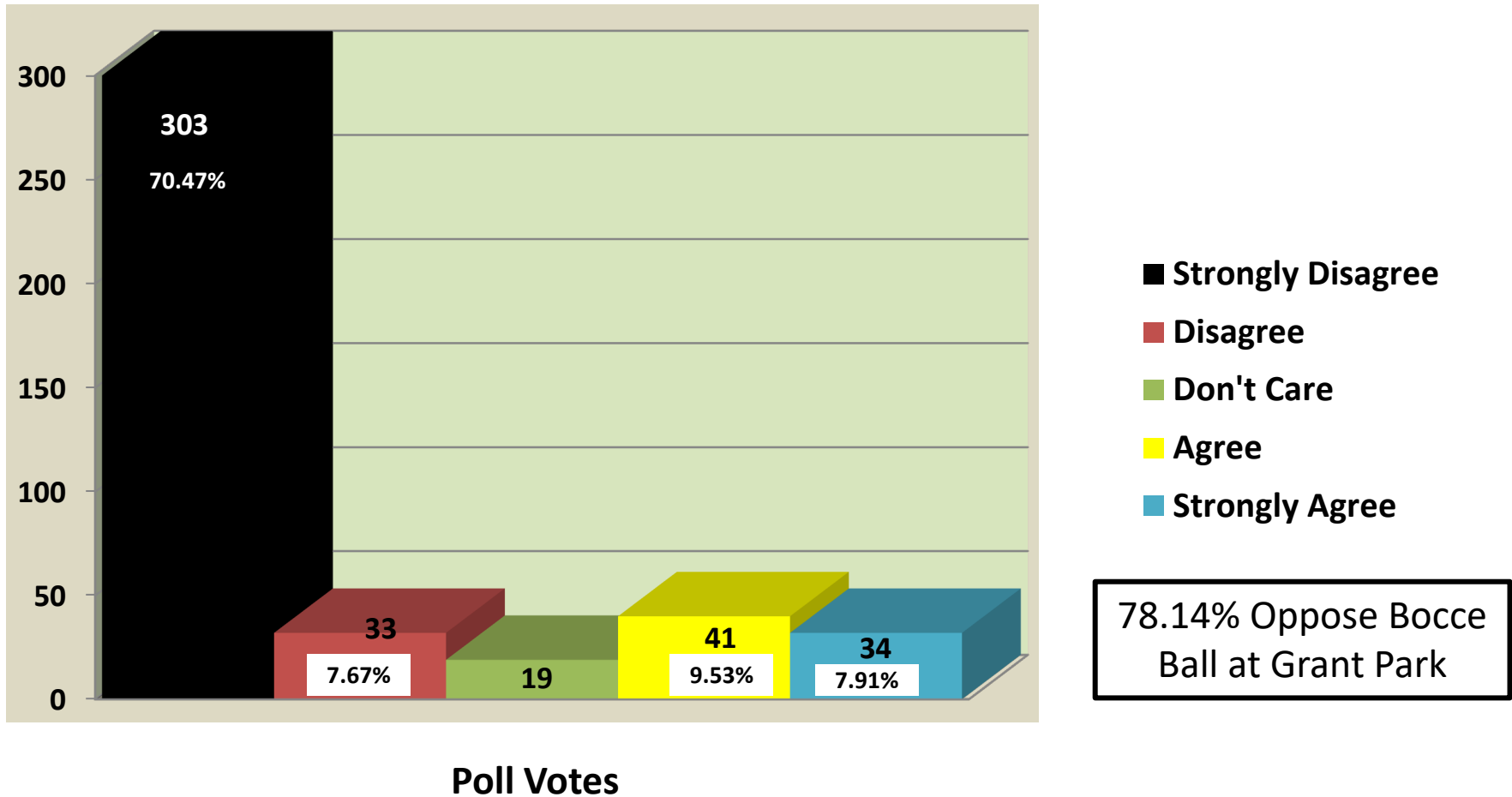
The poll was designed to take about 3 minutes to complete – the results show the average time to complete actually as 4 minutes. Each question allowed residents to offer comments as well. Most of the questions use a standard 1-5 scale.

The poll was announced to residents by posting a link and explanation to a Next Door group list of 1,827 residents that have identified themselves as Grant Park neighbors and later expanded to all other Next Door neighborhood groups later.

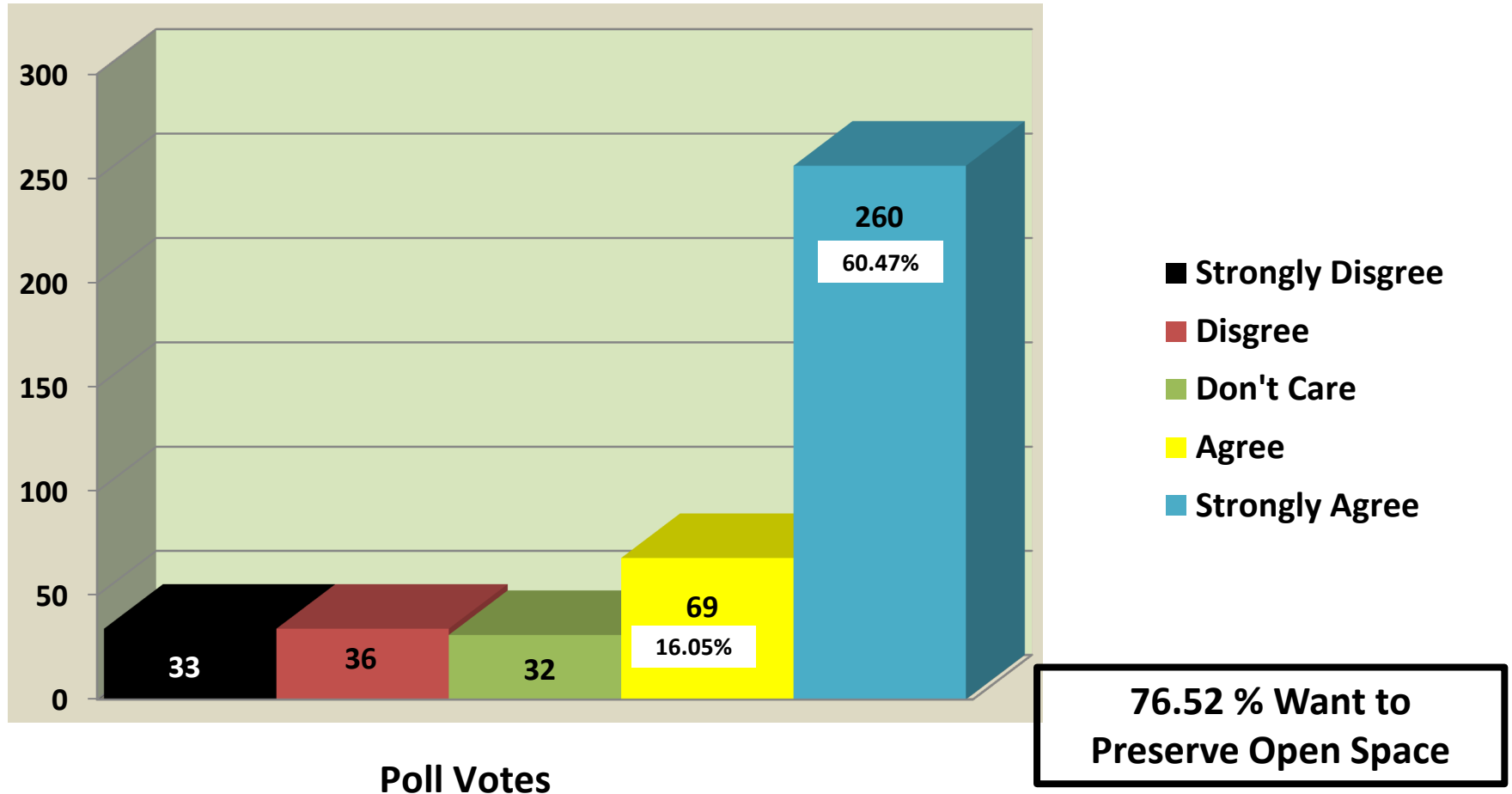
There many captured comments that have yet to be tallied. These comments will be sorted and reported on a later time if needed.

**What follows is a presentation of each of the nine poll questions as bar graphs for easy viewing.**

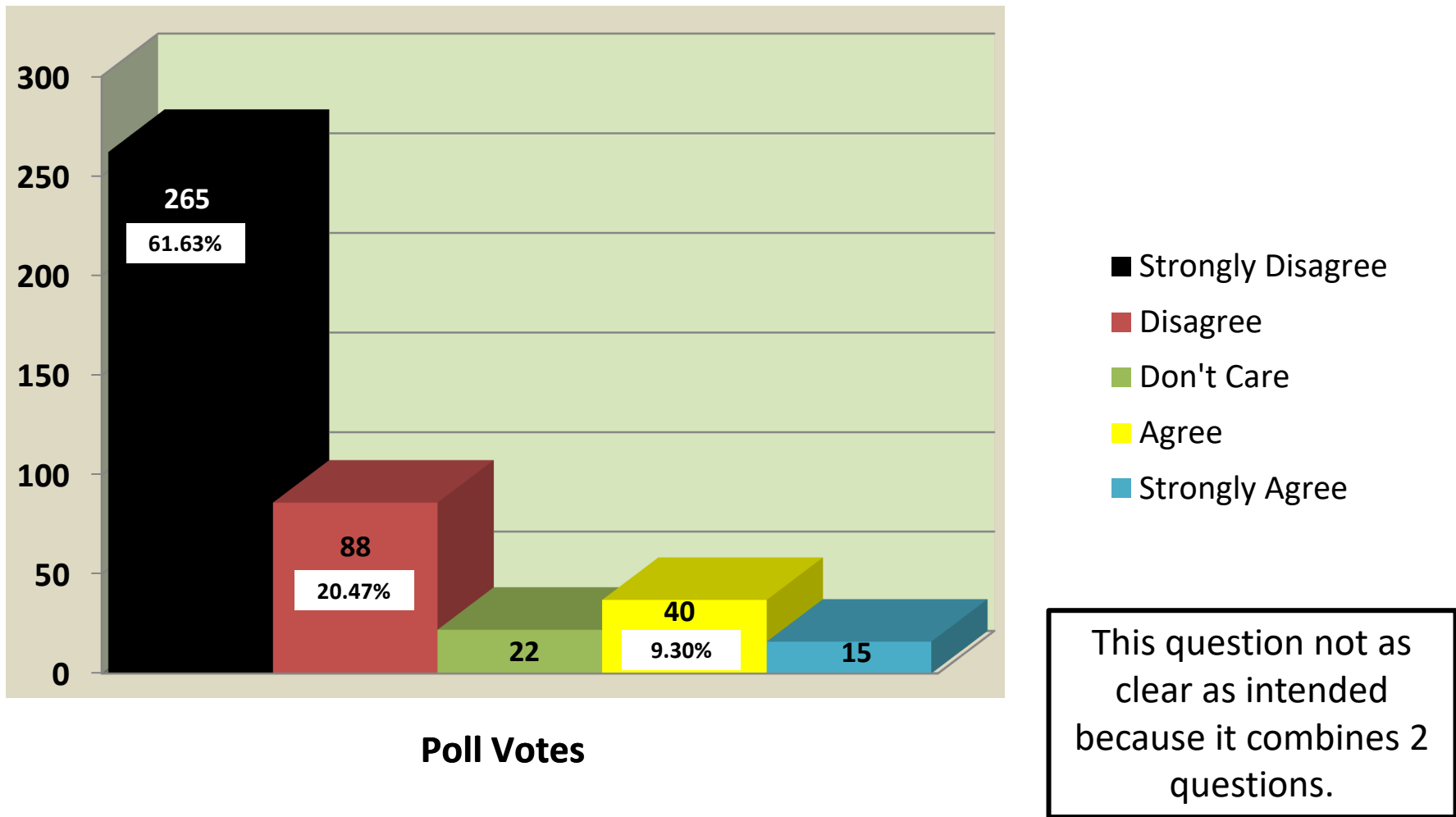
# Q2 – I want Bocce Ball Courts at Grant Park [85 ft x29 ft] or 2,465 sq ft.



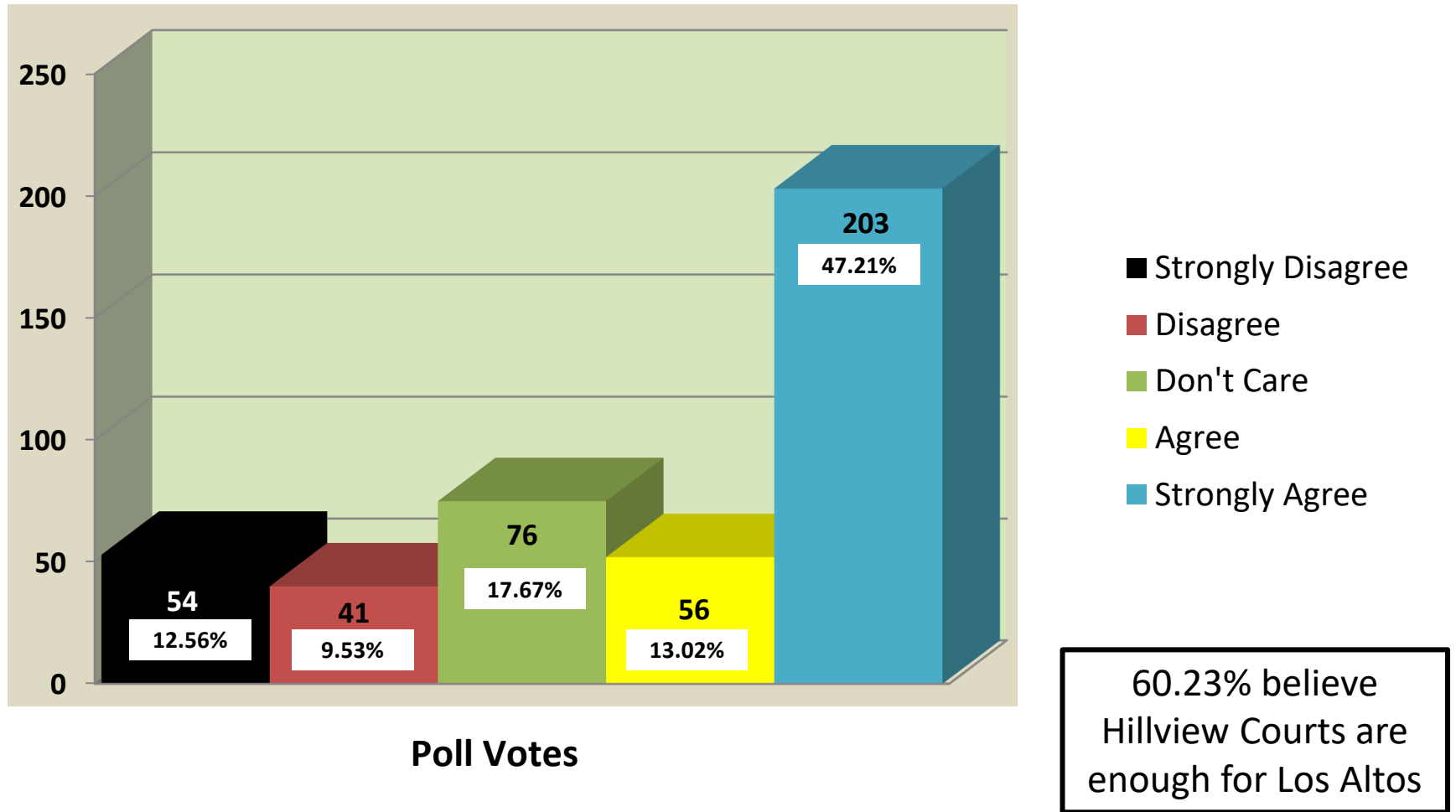
# Q3 – I want 100% of GP grass areas, land, and trees preserved as open space.



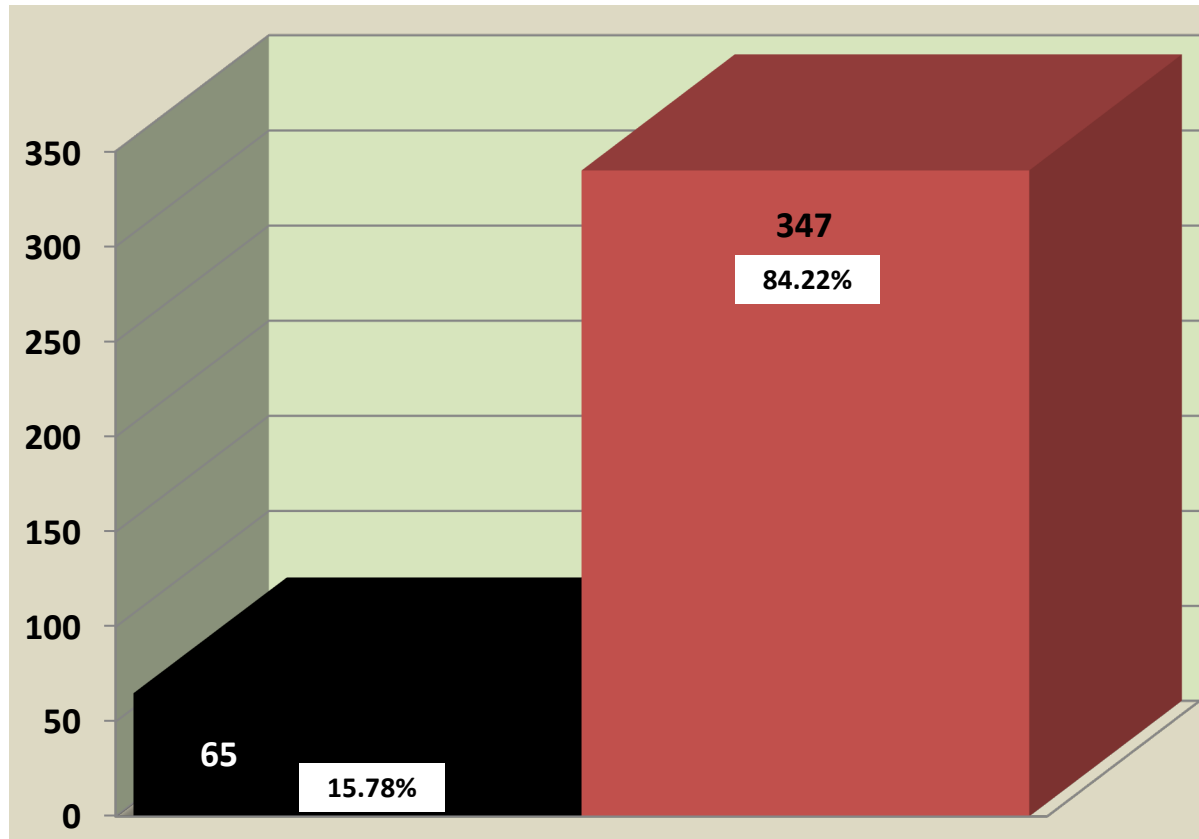
# Q4 – It is okay to remove GP trees or use bare land for other purposes.



# Q5 – I do not want Bocce Ball courts anywhere other than Hillview Community Center.



# Q6 – I currently play Bocce Ball.

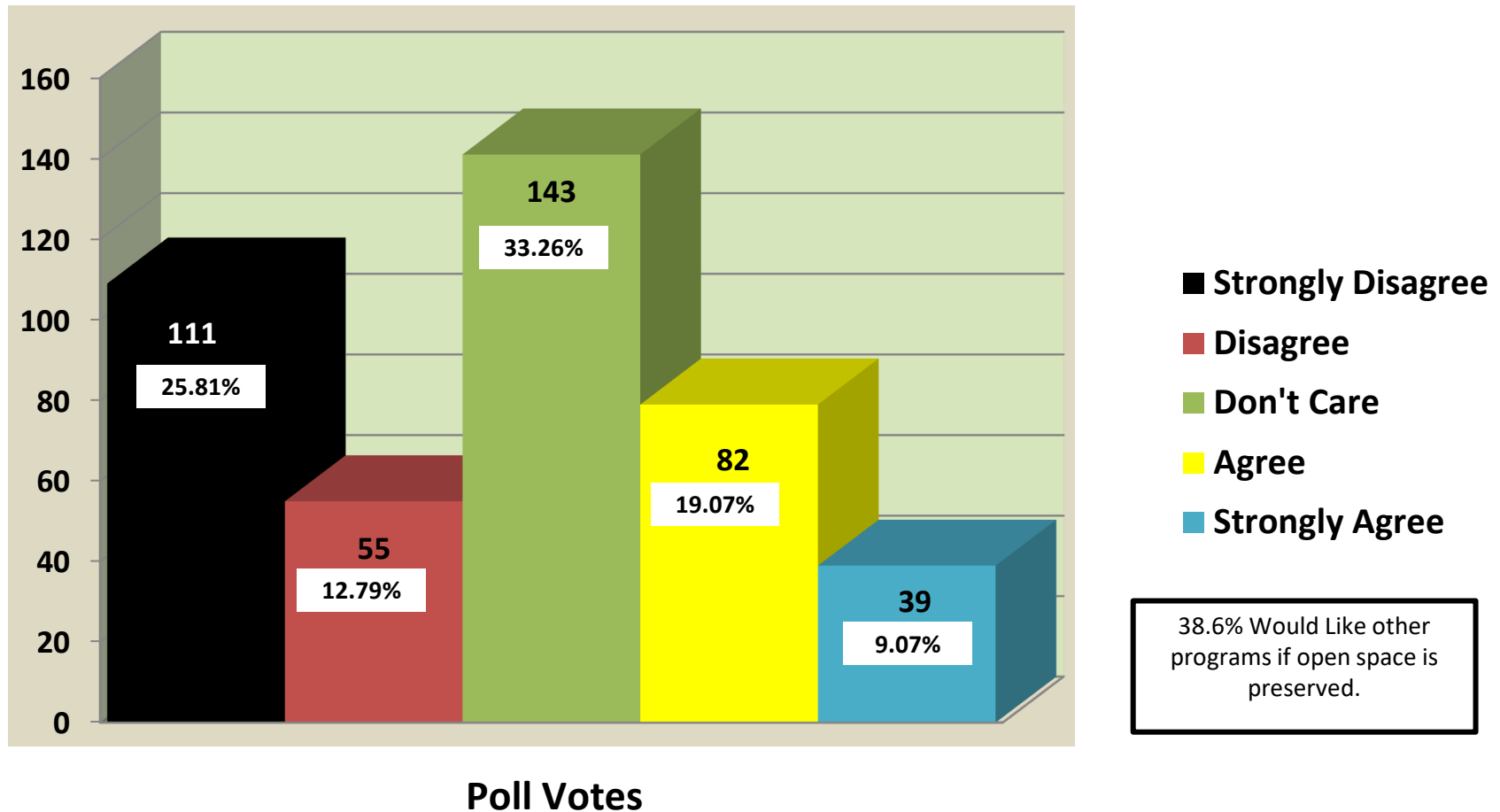


Poll Votes

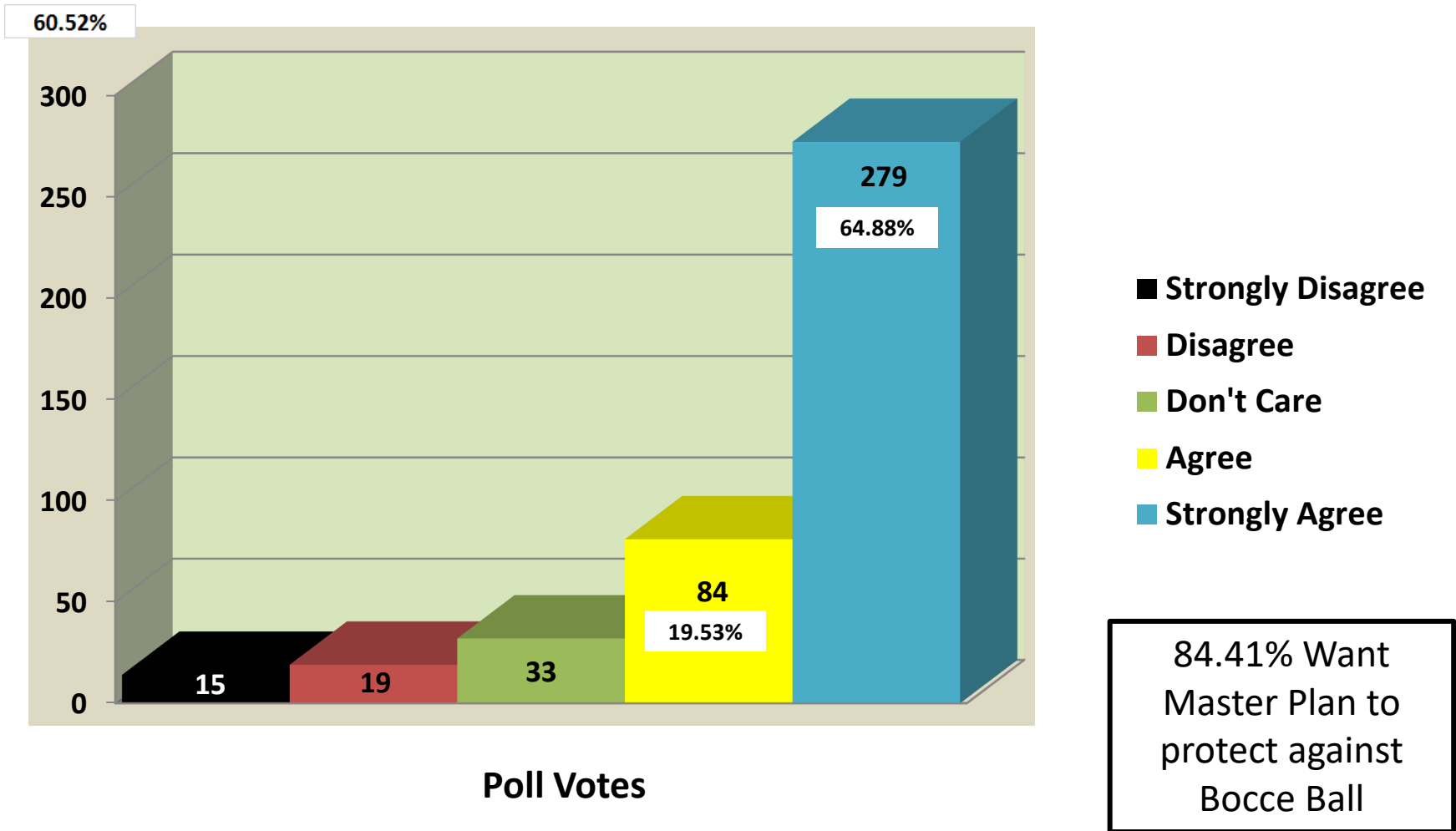
- Currently Play
- Do not play

15.78% that play Bocce Ball does not match 28 active Hillview Players

# Q7 – I would like to see new activities like Pickle Ball or something else [add comment] if open space is preserved.

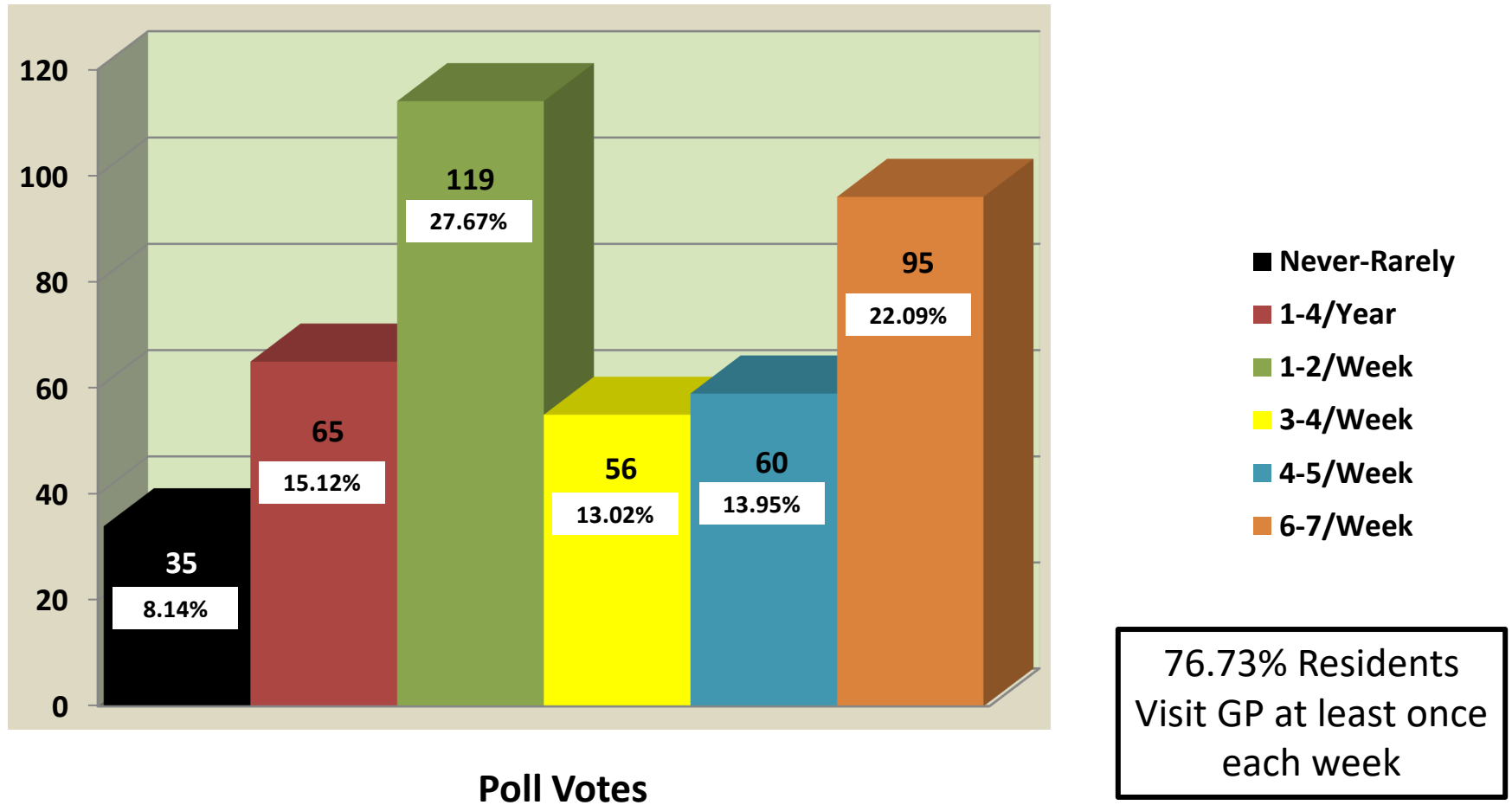


# Q8 – I want a GP Master Plan with valid resident input before making any decision on whether Bocce Ball is included or not.

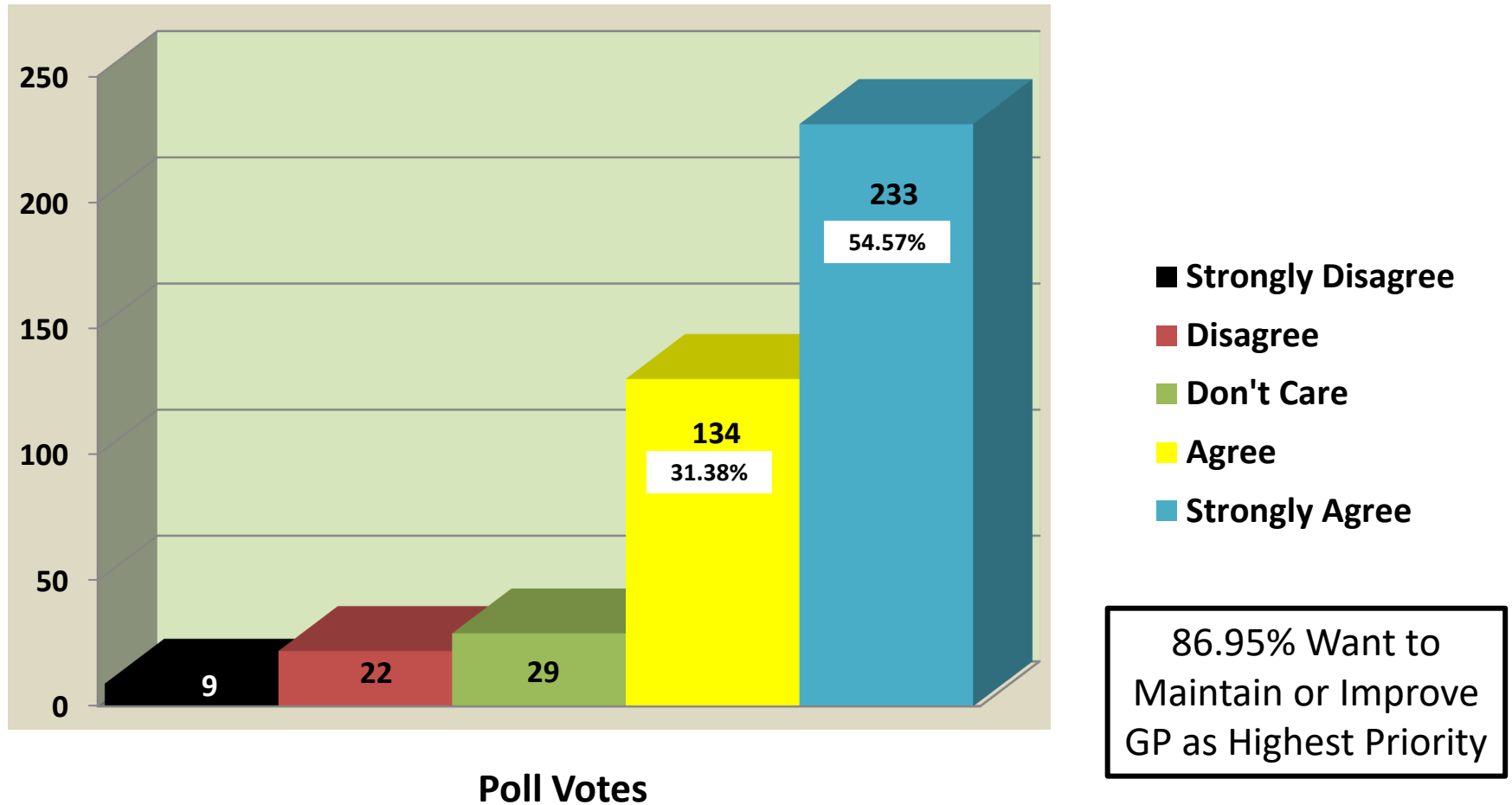




# Q9 – How often do you visit GP or the GP Community Center?



# Q10 – Maintaining or improving the GP CC buildings & existing playground, basketball court, grass fields, and open spaces should be the highest priority.



**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Grant Park Bocce Ball - need for local community input  
**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2020 5:50:33 PM

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**From:** Weeks, Mark [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 4:31 PM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Grant Park Bocce Ball - need for local community input

To City Council:

We are residents of the Grant Park neighborhood and we are expressing our strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

We ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meeting space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000). Furthermore and as you probably know, there are existing bocce ball courts that are available and underutilized.

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond. If the donation is not available without the requirement that it be used for bocce ball courts, then we recommend you turn it down.

Mark and Cynthia Weeks  
1664 Fallen Leaf Lane,  
Los Altos.

**Mark Weeks**

Cooley LLP  
3175 Hanover Street  
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1130



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**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Item #13: Bocce another day  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 10, 2020 1:10:40 PM

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**From:** Maria Bautista [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 10, 2020 12:49 PM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Item #13: Bocce another day

Dear City Council Members,

I believe the Bocce Ball question is another “not this, not now” item.

The city received a generous offer for in-part funding of bocce ball courts at Grant Park, but the donation offer should not drive the agenda for capital improvements.

Moreover, the city should not allocate monies (\$75,000) to further study recreational amenities at this time.

King Lear himself states

*“The bocce idea was excellent, timely, and generous a year ago and may be a good idea in the future. But now we have a continuing pandemic and other issues complicating life for the City. There is a reduction in city revenues, a large hit on our city recreation programs and fees, staff has to plan on moving into the new community center, and we are electing three council members. Bocce is a low priority compared with all this.”*

Please simply acknowledge the offer, looking forward to future discussions about Grant Park amenities and funding sources when the time less rife with greater concerns.

Thank you,

Maria Bautista  
27 Sunkist Lane, Los Altos  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Oppose Bocce Ball Court Grant Park  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 10, 2020 1:30:07 PM

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**From:** Carol T [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 10, 2020 1:28 PM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Cc:** caroltracht@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Oppose Bocce Ball Court Grant Park

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood, and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

I respectfully ask for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground

It is very important to me to have green open space at Grant Park, Los Altos.

I want to keep the open, green space.

My neighbors & myself want to use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying.

Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

CAROL NOLLER TRACHT

1451 Hollidale Ct, Los Altos, CA 94024



**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please No Bocce Ball Courts at Grant Park  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 10, 2020 2:47:55 PM

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Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Malley Malley [REDACTED]  
**Date:** November 10, 2020 at 2:41:27 PM PST  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject: Please No Bocce Ball Courts at Grant Park**

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).



Our park is too small for 85x27' bocce ball court: Cuesta Park (2.4 miles from Grant Park) is 25 acres and has bocce ball courts. Grant Park is 4 acres – it is too small for bocce ball courts. A dedication site stands in the center of Grant Park, from the City of Los Altos that reads as follows: “Through the foresight and the efforts of Friends of Grant, city officials and the citizens of our community, these five acres of open space are dedicated to the people of Los Altos FOR ALL GENERATIONS on this day June 8, 1991.”

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Melissa Malley

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Grant Park proposed Bocce Ball courts  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 10, 2020 4:53:30 PM

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**From:** Rosemary Peters [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 10, 2020 4:44 PM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** Grant Park proposed Bocce Ball courts

To City Council:

We are residents of the Grant Park neighborhood and we are expressing our strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

We ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
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We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

...

Rosemary Peters and Carlos Shaw at 1730 Lantis Lane

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** bocce Ball Courts  
**Date:** Monday, November 23, 2020 5:30:26 PM

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To whom it may concern:

I am opposed to construction of Bocce Ball courts at Grant Park.  
There is already too little green open space at the park.  
Before proceeding with any park changes, there should be a General Plan review with an opportunity for input from adjacent property owners and the general neighborhood surrounding Grant Park.

Thank you for your consideration,

Gordon Snedigar  
1965 Churton Avenue  
Los Altos, CA 94024

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]